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SMOTHERED BY THE HUNDREDS

Horrors of the Coal Mine Disaster in Utah Grow.

OVER THREE HUNDRED DEAD

Greed of Green Miners From Europe Caused the Terrible Explosion—Carried Giant Powder Into the Mine Against the Rules and Used It.

SALT LAKE, May 2.—A special to the Herald from Scofield, Utah, says: It seems that at least 250 men have been killed in the mine accident. Accurate figures cannot be given, and will not be known, for some days. The mine managers say it will be impossible to secure a list of the names until the dead bodies have been brought out and identified.

Superintendent Sharp says there were 300 men in the mine at the time of the explosion. Of these it is impossible to account for more than sixty. In the turmoil and confusion, those who escaped cannot be seen. There is great variance between the figures given by Superintendent Sharp and those given by Mine Superintendent Parmelee. Mr. Smoot, of Provo, said there were 250 men in the mine and, if that is correct, more than 300 are among the dead.

The officials of the coal company say there is no record of the miners working from day to day.

The theory of Bishop Parmelee is that some of the Finns, recently imported, secretly took giant powder down into the mine to assist them in their work. They were exceedingly anxious to make a good showing and, it is thought, that this form of explosive was used in order that great bodies of coal could be more easily dislodged. It is thought that when the giant powder was touched off, it ignited some of the dust.

A special to the Desert News from Scofield says:

At this hour, 10:30, 201 bodies have been recovered. It is now known that between 200 and 400 men entered the mines, and it is also known that the great majority of them have been killed. The appalling nature of the disaster had not fully dawned on the people of this place last night, as the company kept the grief-stricken wives and children away from the scene of operations.

All night long lights were kept burning in every home in Scofield, and the moans of mothers and pitiful cries of many orphans are heartrending. The two camps have always been conspicuous for the large number of married men employed. This fact makes the disaster more appalling and far-reaching in its results. Several families have been robbed of all their male representatives. In the Hunter family seven are missing. Among the dead are about twenty young boys who acted as couplers and trap boys.

Just how the catastrophe occurred is not known, and probably will never be definitely known, as various reasons are being attributed. At Provo a mass meeting has been held for the relief of the families of the victims, and \$3,000 has been subscribed.

SALT LAKE, Utah, May 2.—The first news of the Scofield disaster received in Salt Lake, gave the list of killed as about 25. This even, was horrifying and caused a profound sensation throughout the city. Later details showed that the disaster was more awful even than the first reports indicated, but it was not until evening that the full extent of the tremendous calamity was understood.

Many people of this city have friends and relatives at the mines and the newspaper offices and the coal company's office were visited by numbers of anxious people, who feared some of their friends or relatives might be numbered among the victims. As the list kept constantly growing, the anxiety of the inquirers increased and many of them never went to bed.

The calamity was of such a size and so unprecedented in the history of the

state, and even of the west, that the mind did not seem to be able to fully grasp it.

The Pleasant Valley Coal Company dates back sixteen years. Its mines are at Scofield, where three are located; at Castlegate, Sunnyside and Cedar Creek, the latter being but seven miles from Scofield.

It appears to have been one of those accidents that are common to the very best regulated mines and against the best endeavors of the most competent superintendents, among whom is numbered Superintendent Sharp. The state mine inspector is still without data to lay the blame on any one. Of course an inquest will have to determine just where the blame rests, and perhaps it can never be fully understood.

W. C. Wilson was one of those fortunate ones on the lower level of No. 1 who escaped. He tells his story as follows: "There was a low rumbling noise heard in the distance, followed by a sort of wave that can hardly be described, but that is known to all who have been in explosions, and I have been in several. I said to my partner that if gas was known to exist in the mine, I should say that an explosion had occurred. I advised that we run to the mouth of the tunnel, and with me came six men working in that section. In the main tunnel we met the driver and asked him if he had noticed the strange occurrence.

"He replied that he had almost been knocked off the bar by the rush of air. I was then convinced that it was indeed an explosion and advised my comrades to hasten with me to the mouth. We met two others further on and they proceeded with us. We were none too soon, for the after-damp reached us some three or four minutes before we reached the open air, almost suffocating us."

The afterdamp delayed the work of the rescuing party but the magnitude of the disaster soon became apparent. All the men on the raise known as Pike's Peak, were lying in clusters. John James, a county commissioner, was found with his son, George, entwined in loving embrace in each other's arms. All these men had apparently realized that death was coming, for all were found as though in attitude of defense. Some had their cloaks about their necks, others had tried to protect themselves by burying their faces in the ground floor of the mine, hoping thus to escape the deadly gas that was fast enveloping them. They must have lived for sometime in prayerful expectation of rescue reaching them.

Bernard Dougall, a promising and enterprising young engineer, from Springfield, Utah, who had only just entered the mine a few minutes before with his assistants, was found with his instrument set, while he and his men lay dead around it.

As fast as the bodies were removed they were carried to the company's barn across the canyon, where they were washed and identified. The scene was ghastly, yet most pathetic. Between the blackened and stalwart men lay about a dozen little lads, who had been engaged as couplers and trappers. Some lay alone side of their fathers and elder brothers. It was a scene that made many a strong man turn away in tears.

After the foul air cleared away from No. 1, the work of rescue began here and it was soon found that a great many of the miners of No. 1 had been suffocated. The men of the lower levels had been warned of the explosion and had made their escape before the deadly gas reached them. Cars were taken in and the dead loaded into them and brought to the mouth.

Here the scene beggared all description, for men, women and children, relatives of the dead miners, had begun to gather, and as the dead bodies were brought out and recognized by their respective families, the lamentations were most heartrending. The dead were all carried into the lodging house directly opposite the mine, and at midnight 137 stalwart men, nearly all heads of families, were laid out in the cold embrace of death. Bishop Thomas Parmelee, superintendent of operations here, gives it as his opinion that the explosion was brought about by giant powder which was taken into the mine by some of the miners and exploded in some unaccountable way, igniting the dust and thereby causing an explosion.

This mine has been worked for over twenty years and had the reputation,

(Continued on page four.)

WENT THROUGH WITH A HURRAH

Canal Bill Passes House by Big Majority—Stormy Debate.

MEMBERS CALL HARD NAMES

Day of Intense Excitement, But All Opposition Is Crushed—Clark, of Montana, Causing More Trouble in the Senate—A Scheme Nipped.

WASHINGTON, May 2.—The house today, at the conclusion of the most stormy debate of the present session of congress, passed the Nicaragua canal bill by an overwhelming vote of 225 to 35.

All attempts to retain in the bill the language of the original bill pending for fortification of the canal, and to still further strengthen the language on that line, were balked and the victory of Hepburn and his committee was complete. A motion to recommit the bill, with instructions to report back another bill, leaving the selection of the route to the president, was buried under an adverse majority of 53 to 171. Cannon, chairman of the appropriations committee, and Barton, of Ohio, chairman of the river and harbors committee, made a game fight to stall off action at this session, but their appeals were in vain, and the members rode, rough shod, over all their arguments and protests.

Much excitement reigned throughout the day and several times bitter words were used. The excitement reached its climax in a highly dramatic scene between Hepburn and Cannon, when the former used the words "lie" and "liar," as he denounced the distinguished chairman of the appropriations committee for attempting to "dishonor him."

The house was in riotous confusion during the quarrel. Members crowded the aisles and the situation at one time was so threatening that Wheeler, (dem.), of Kentucky, sought to pour oil on the waters by raising a point of order. But he was not upheld and the twoirate members carried their war to the very hill.

There was a show of peace at the close of the incident, but the feeling between the two men ran so high that mutual retractions with which such incidents generally end, were but cloaks of the keenest and most cutting sarcasm.

Those who voted nay were: Acheson, Burton, Cannon, Capron, Clark (Mo.), Cooney, Cowherd, Cox, Dalzell, De Armond, Denny, Dougherty, Fleming, Fletcher, Gaston, Gillett (Mass.), Graham, Hitt, King, Lawrence, Lester, Levi, Littauer, Littlefield, McCall, Neville, Rhea (Ky.), Buckner, Shafroth, Stewart (Wis.), Talbert, Thayer, Vandiver—35.

The bill, as it passed the house, authorizes the president of the United States to acquire from the states of Costa Rica and Nicaragua control of such territory as may be desirable and necessary, on which to excavate, construct and protect a canal of sufficient depth and capacity, as will be sufficient for the movements of ships of the greatest tonnage and draft now in use, from a point near Greytown, on the Caribbean sea, via Lake Nicaragua to Breto, on the Pacific ocean; and such sum as may be necessary to secure such control is hereby appropriated.

The sum of \$10,000,000 is appropriated toward the project and the secretary of war is authorized to enter into a contract for such materials and work as may be deemed necessary for the proper excavation, construction, completion and defense of the canal, to be paid for as appropriations may from time to time be hereafter made, not to exceed in the aggregate \$10,000,000.

In offering an amendment in the senate to the army appropriation bill, providing that volunteer soldiers in the Philippines who had remained there and performed willing service long after they were entitled to discharge, should receive travel pay and commutation of subsistence, less actual cost of their transportation to the United States, Turner (dem.), of Washington, made an extended statement.

He declared that the volunteers brought back to the United States from the Philippines had been packed like swine in dark, filthy, rotten and antiquated vessels.

"I went to San Francisco," continued Turner, "to join in the reception of the Washington regiment upon its return from the Philippines. I went aboard the vessel and into her hold, where the soldiers were packed, and I assert, on my honor, that the quarters were not fit for animals."

Turner said the cost involved in the amendment would be about \$1,000,000. Hawley made a point of order against the amendment that it was a change

of the existing law and the point was sustained.

Hear gave notice that on tomorrow he would move to proceed to the consideration of the resolution declaring Clark, of Montana, not entitled to his seat in the senate. The notice aroused an interesting colloquy, indicating that some of the senators would insist upon time in which to examine the testimony. Chandler said a reasonable time would be given, but unreasonable delay would not be submitted to.

Chandler said he had heard that there was a purpose, of which he entirely acquitted any senator, to delay the consideration of the Clark resolution in order to prevent the governor of Montana from appointing a senator to succeed Clark in case he should be unseated. He had heard that it was intended to attempt to postpone the case until next winter, in order that Clark might be in a better position to prosecute his claims for re-election before the people of Montana.

MEMORIAL PARK ESTABLISHED.

WASHINGTON, May 2.—In the senate today Sewell, representative, secured the passage of a bill to establish Fredericksburg and adjacent national battlefields as a memorial park in Virginia, including the battlefields of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, the Wilderness and Spottsylvania.

WILL SELL THE AUXILIARIES.

Government Will Dispose of All the Fast Tugs and Yachts Used During the War.

NEW YORK, May 2.—A special to the Tribune from Washington, says: The navy department is considering the advisability of selling all the steam yachts, tug boats and small vessels purchased as auxiliaries just after the destruction of the Maine two years ago. The larger vessels, which are useful as coilers and transports, will be retained, as well as a few smaller vessels which are actively engaged in surveys and police duty in Cuban and Central American waters.

There are about twenty yachts and as many tug boats that are laid up at the navy yards and rapidly going to pieces for want of repairs and proper care. It is said by the naval constructors and engineers that these vessels deteriorate much more rapidly when laid up than when in commission, performing actual duty.

An instance is given in the case of one of the fine yachts. Her decks are warped by the sun until they must be renewed. Her engines and boilers are badly rusted and many new parts will have to be substituted. This is due to the lack of money to enable yard officials to give the vessel constant attention. If she had a crew her decks would be soaked down every day, and the machinery would not have an opportunity to rust. It is proposed, now, an appraisal be made of all the auxiliaries that are not likely to be useful for naval purposes, and offer them for sale. The government will be satisfied if the appraised valuation can be secured, in view of the fact that it would cost nearly \$500,000 a year to keep the vessels in fair order.

AGUINALDO ASSASSINATED.

Every Reason to Believe the Rebel Leader Was Killed by Igoroties—His Correspondence Found.

MANILA, May 2.—General Funston has discovered a rebel warehouse near Cabanatuan, province of New Egitia, containing all the archives of the Malolos government, Aguinaldo's correspondence up to the time of his flight and much valuable historical matter. The belief is growing that Aguinaldo was killed by Igoroties. There is no proof that he has been seen alive since Major March, of the Thirty-third regiment, abandoned the chase after the Filipino leader in the Benquet mountains.

BOULELLE A DYING MAN.

NEW YORK, May 2.—Word has been received by personal friends of Charles A. Boulelle, representative from the fourth Maine district, that he is failing so rapidly in health that unless there is a quick change for the better, it will be cruel to permit him to be a candidate for re-election next fall. His physicians assert that he is in grave danger of death.

Mr. Boulelle has been very ill for many months, and experts on neurology have told his family he can never again be himself. Despite his condition he was renominated by acclamation. The belief is now strong here that his name will be withdrawn.

ANOTHER BOAT FOR THE YUKON.

NEW YORK, May 2.—The fishing steamboat Dolphin, formerly the Al Foster, which has been fitted with two masts and rigged as a brig, has sailed from Hoboken for Seattle, via the Straits of Magellan. She is under command of Captain Charles E. Peabody, of the old Neptune line, and carries a crew of 35 men, and will ply between Seattle and the Yukon river, in connection with the White Pass & Yukon River railroad.

ROBERTS' PLAN OF CAMPAIGN

He Is Moving Slowly But Surely Toward Pretoria.

BOERS TO COME TO AMERICA

Oom Paul Has Picked Out His Future Residence in Germany—Mafeking Will Be Relieved, Say the Generals, But They Cannot Tell When.

LONDON, May 3, 4:10 a. m.—The immediate objective of Lord Roberts is to establish a line of British posts from one frontier of the Free State to the other, at right angles with the railway, thus preventing Boer raids to the southward. It is essential, therefore, that the Boers should be expelled from the rugged Thabanchu district and be forced to retire to Ladybrand.

As a result of desultory firing on Monday and Tuesday, the Boers were pushed back a few miles but nothing definite appears to have yet been attained. The Boers continue to follow their harassing tactics. One well-horsed commando, operating in the neighborhood of Sannas Post, interferes with the British convoys going from Bloemfontein to Thabanchu. The enemy nearly captured a convoy Tuesday but they were driven off after a brisk fight.

Preparations for the advance continue at Kimberley. Sir Alfred Milner has written to the mayor of Kimberley, assuring him that the relief of Mafeking has not ceased to occupy his attention and that of the military authorities, and that nothing will be left undone to raise the siege. The British garrisons along the railway toward Warrenton have been strengthened and supplies are going forward.

WASHINGTON, May 2.—Senator Teller today introduced the following resolution:

"Resolved that we watch with deep and abiding interest the war between Great Britain and the South African republics and, with full determination to maintain proper neutrality between the contending forces, we cannot withhold our sympathy for the struggling people of the republics, and it is our earnest desire that the government of the United States, by its friendly offices offered to both powers, may assist in bringing the war to a speedy conclusion in a manner honorable both to Great Britain and the South African republics."

NEW YORK, May 2.—A Pretoria letter to the World, dated March 23, says:

Although the majority of the Boers still believe that the independence of the republics will remain after the war, hundreds of them are taking the opposite view and are casting about for a suitable country to which they can emigrate.

State Secretary Retts said today: "If the English take those republics and raise the Union Jack over them, I will take my family to America. And scores of other burghers have said the same thing to me. Many of the older Boers will trek to German West Africa, where there are thousands of square miles of fertile territory, and thousands will emigrate to other countries."

An old Boer in the Free State several days ago asked concerning the rates of passage to America.

The friends of President Kruger say that if the Transvaal loses her independence, he will spend the last years of his life in Holland or Germany.

WOMEN DOCTORS BARRED.

Canadian Hospitals Refuse to Allow Them to Enter—Bishop's College Turns Them Out.

MONTREAL, May 2.—In presenting the degrees in the medical faculty of Bishop's college, Lennoxville, Dr. E. W. Campbell, dean of the faculty, said: "I regret that neither Miss Evans (who has taken the David silver medal) nor any other woman will be able, after today, to take the degree in medicine at Bishop's college, for the reason that no hospital in the city will open its doors to women practitioners. Both the General and the Royal Victoria hospitals have refused to do so."

CARNEGIE'S GRAND STAND PLAY.

NEW YORK, May 2.—Andrew Carnegie, who refused to contribute to the Dewey arch fund, has given \$1000 to the widow of Sergeant Douglas, who was killed at Croton Dam during the recent strike. In sending the check Mr. Carnegie wrote: "Sergeant Douglas fought not for foreign conquest, but for peace and order at home."